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29 August 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 29 August 1979

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The Director was on leave; Mr. Carlucci chaired the meeting. [redacted]

McMahon reported briefly on the following:

-- Mexico's President Portillo is playing down Mexican press outrage on U.S. demands that Mexico pay some cost of the oil spill along the Texas border.

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-- [redacted]

-- Warnings continue from various sources that China will attack Vietnam again--date unknown. Mr. Carlucci asked if we should issue an Alert Memorandum; Hicks responded we are not yet at that point.

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-- [redacted]

Taylor echoed remarks made by others at the 17 August Staff Meeting that OMB's new budget examiner, Keith Hall, is making a good impression--"a level-headed guy." Taylor noted OMB superiors have provided Hall with sensible guidance. He said also this year's budget hearings, to be conducted by Hall with RMS, will involve Deputy Directors more than in past years vis-a-vis office heads; he said this should result in a more comprehensive review. [redacted]

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[redacted]

TOP SECRET
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[redacted] reported on an intelligence briefing update of Lloyd Cutler, Ralph Earle, Walt Slocum, and others centering on the 27 August NID article about the Soviet brigade in Cuba. He said Cutler's specific concern centers on correspondence between the President and Senator Stone on what criteria would constitute establishment of a Soviet military base in Cuba, and adequate intelligence coverage of another brigade exercise scheduled for 3/4 September. He and McMahon referred to President Carter's statement of late July that establishment of a military base by the Soviets would be viewed most critically by the U.S. Hicks said he is aware that Senator Humphrey (N.H.) had requested a briefing sometime ago; now scheduled for 5 September. McMahon said we should advise State and stay glued to them on this. Hicks said he has instructed that a chronology paper on Soviet military developments should be provided as a pivot piece for all principals to speak from. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] reported State has expressed interest in an HASC staff request to us for a substantive briefing on the Sandinistas. He said also regarding the Glennon Report that the situation is presenting no problem to us at the moment; he said Justice has directed the report not be declassified until their investigation is complete. [redacted] 25X1 25X1

In response to a query from Mr. Carlucci, Silver said the current status of Charters Legislation will be uncertain until the return of SSCI's Miller and Senator Bayh from their trip to Rome. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] 25X1

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New York Times (29 August)

J.F. Kennedy Theorist Offering to Sell Copies Of 5 'Autopsy Photos'

Special to The New York Times

Harrison Livingstone, a novelist and freelance journalist, is trying to sell photographs he describes as copies of the autopsy pictures of President Kennedy. He says that he is selling them because he and his group need at least $800,000 "to prove the conspiracy in the murder of our President."

In 1977, copies of the prints, but no negatives, were lent to the House Select Committee on Assassinations. The committee's chief counsel, G. Robert Blakey, kept them in a safe and then returned them to the Archives in January 1979 by armored truck.

Mr. Livingstone, who has been writing a series of assassination articles in The Baltimore Chronicle, a community monthly, says he has offered the photographs, in both black and white and color, to UPI, NBC, CBS, ABC, The New York Times, The New York Post, The Boston Globe, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Washington Star, The Washington Post, The London Telegraph, The London Express, The Los Angeles Times, Playboy, Hustler, Springer News Service (Germany), and the Osahi Shimbun in Tokyo. He said that he had received no orders as of late yesterday.

"There are two things possible here," Mr. Blakey said. "Either it's a fraud against the people who would purchase these pictures. Or it's an attempt to sell stolen property. I did everything in my power to make sure these pictures were not disclosed in a manner that was not consistent with good taste. And only a person of consummate bad taste would publicly disseminate these materials."

Reached at the office of his attorney in Baltimore, Mr. Livingstone said there was no fraud. "I have five different pictures," he said. "They're legitimate. And they aren't stolen."

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